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House of Representatives

MRS. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend sincere congratulations to Randolph County's very own Richard Petty, as he was one of five people selected statewide to receive the Winner's Circle award. The annual Winner's Circle award is given to individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to North Carolina's tourism industry. Without a doubt, Richard Petty has been instrumental in enticing visitors from near and far to visit our great state.

There is a reason that NASCAR is North Carolina's official state sport, and Richard Petty has played a significant role in contributing to the sport's popularity. As one of the founding families in stock car racing, and one of the most decorated drivers in NASCAR history, Richard Petty has remained committed to establishing both his race shop and race museum in Randolph County, North Carolina. Tourism is a powerful force to our state's economic well-being, and Richard Petty has been influential in bringing racing fans from across America to the Tar Heel state. We are fortunate to have a North Carolinian who remains so steadfast in promoting the uniqueness of our state and the sport at large.



U.S. Representative Renee Ellmers